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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/722,508	11/28/2000	Teresa F. Lunt	104135	5996

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Oliff & Berridge, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, VA 22320

EXAMINER

ARANI, TAGHI T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2131

DATE MAILED: 11/10/2004

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/722,508

Applicant(s)

LUNT ET AL.

Examiner

Taghi T. Arani, Ph.D.

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2131

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-17 are pending for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stefik et al. (hereinafter “Stefik”), U.S. Patent 6, 23,684, issued May 2001.

As per claim 1, Stefik teaches a document forgery protection printing method, comprising (abstract):

processing an image of a document [Fig.5, element 501, see also col. 11, lines 25-30, col. 12, lines 10-15];

determining forgery protection requirements for the document to be printed [col. 16-36, i.e. print right specifies that a purchaser of the document must pay fees and that document must only be printed on a trusted printer, col. 5, lines 47-59, see also Fig.10] ;

determining a protection level to be applied to the document based on the determined forgery protection requirements [5, numeral element 501, i.e. a print usage right which specifies watermark information , col. 8, lines 40-54, i.e. expressing the rights in a rights language and that different watermarking technologies is applied to the same digital work, see also col. 10, col. 19-52Fig];

Art Unit: 2131

selecting a printer from a plurality of printers that can print the document [Fig. 5, numeral element 508, see also col. 4, lines 61-64]; and

based on the determined protection level, printing at least one watermark on the document that corresponds to the determined protection level using the selected printer [col. 7, lines 21-44, fig. 3, printer system 301, Fig. 6, elements 612].

As per claims 2, Stefik teaches the method of claim 1, wherein determining the forgery protection requirements includes displaying information about forgery techniques [Figure 6, elements 607-611, i.e. copy, transfer, play or print].

As per claim 3, Stefik teaches the method of claim 2, wherein displaying information further includes displaying information about forgery techniques each protection level is able to at least one of detects and deter [col. 3, lines 21-39].

As per claim 4, Stefik teaches the method of claim 1; wherein determining the forgery protection requirements includes collecting information about the document [Fig. 6, elements 601-603, see also Fig. 8].

As per claim 5, Stefik teaches the method of claim 1, wherein determining the protection level includes identifying at least one of a creator of the document, a person entering a command to print the document, and an image processor that processes the image of the document [Fig. 6, elements 602, 613 and 617, see also col. 9, lines 14-19].

As per claim 6, Stefik teaches the method of claim 1, wherein determining the protection level includes reviewing contents of the document [Fig. 8, see also col. 12, lines 36-52].

Art Unit: 2131

As per claim 7, Stefik teaches The method of claim 1, further comprising querying the plurality of printers to determine the protection level each printer can apply to the document [Fig. 12, see also col. 12, line 63 through col. 13, line 41].

As per claim 8, Stefik teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising setting printing parameters on the selected printer to apply the determined protection level to the document [col. 13, lines 20-41].

As per claim 9, Stefik teaches The method of claim 1, wherein determining the protection level includes at least one of assigning and selecting the protection level by at least one of a creator of the document and a person entering a command to print the document [col. 12, lines 9-36].

As per claim 10, Stefik teaches a document forgery protection printing system, comprising [col. 16, line 14-19]:

at least one server having a print management system and a policy that determines a forgery protection level for the document [Fig. 17, element 1705-1706, col. 17, line 14 through col. 18, line 5];

at least one image processor that processes an image of the document [Fig. 5, element 501, see also col. 11, lines 25-30, col. 12, lines 10-15];

a plurality of printers, each printer able to print the document and able to apply at least one protection level to the document by printing at least one watermark on the document that corresponds to the determined protection level [Fig. 5, numeral element 508, col. 4, lines 61-64, see also col. 7, lines 21-44, fig. 3, printer system 301, Fig. 6, elements 612].

Art Unit: 2131

As per claim 11, Stefik teaches the document forgery protection printing system of claim 10, further comprising a display device, at least one of the server and one of the at least one image processors driving the display device to display information about forgery techniques [col. 6, lines 18- 45, see also col. 7, lines 21-44, see also Figure 6, elements 607-611, i.e. copy, transfer, play or print].

As per claim 12, Stefik teaches the document forgery protection printing system of claim 11, wherein the displayed information includes information about forgery techniques each protection level is able to at least one of detect and deter [col. 3, lines 21-39].

As per claim 13, Stefik teaches the document forgery protection printing system of claim 10, wherein the policy determines the protection level for the document based on information collected from at least one of a creator of the document and a person entering a command to print the document [Fig. 6, elements 602, 613 and 617, see also col. 9, lines 14-19].

As per claim 14, Stefik teaches the document forgery protection printing system of claim 10, wherein the policy determines the protection level based on at least one of a creator of the document, a person entering a command to print the document, and an image processor that processes the image of the document [Fig. 6, elements 602, 613 and 617, see also col. 9, lines 14-19].

As per claim 15, Stefik teaches the document forgery protection printing system of claim 10, wherein the policy determines the protection level based on contents of the document [Fig. 8, see also col. 12, lines 36-52].

As per claim 16, Stefik teaches the document forgery protection printing system of claim 10, wherein the policy determines the protection level based at least in part on a protection level assigned to the document [col. 12, lines 9-36].

As per claim 17, Stefik teaches the document forgery protection printing system of claim 10, wherein the server sets printing parameters for the selected printer selected to apply the determined protection level to the document [col. 13, lines 20-41].

Conclusion

Prior arts made of record, not relied upon:

US 6,763,463 is directed to a system and method for secure distribution of electronic documents which reduces the likelihood of unauthorized reproduction.

US 6, 804,376 discloses Equipment employing watermark-based authentication function.

US 2004/0153649 teaches system for reading and authenticating printed objects using authentication information.

US 2003/0128862 is directed to a method for integrating watermarks into holograms, watermarked hologram structures, and related applications.

US 6, 614,914 discloses a watermark system including an embedder, detector, and reader.

US 6, 345,104 teaches security document (e.g. passport, currency, event tickets, and the like) in which multi binary machine readable information is encoded.

US 201/0054150 is directed to a method for controlling watermark embedding in a media object through use of a watermark.

Art Unit: 2131

US 6, 329, 453 teaches a photo chromic phase change ink composition that contains at least one selected polymeric and photo chromic yellow phase change and a phase change ink carrier composition.

US 5, 678, 155 teaches a character-detecting section which detects characters from an image that has been read from a document.

US 5,629,980 teaches a system for controlling and distribution of digital works.

US 5, 444,79 teaches a system for utilizing a printable, yet unobtrusive or similar two dimensionally encoded mark to identity copyrighted documents.

US 5, 157, 726 teaches a system for authenticating a hard copy of an original document.

EP 0m 961 239 A2 teaches a machine-readable data which is digitally watermarked into banknotes.

Mintzer et al., Safeguarding Digital Library Contents and Users , Digital Watermarking, IBM Research Division, December 1997, discusses various watermarking techniques including fragile, Robust, visible and invisible watermarks.

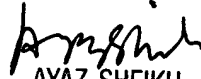
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Taghi T. Arani whose telephone number is (571) 272-3787. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2131

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Taghi T. Arani, Ph.D.
Examiner
Art Unit 2131


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